

festivals and pilgrimages, while it drew its
 point from
 practical abuses, sprang inevitably from his
 repudiation
 of the idea that merit could be acquired by
 the operation
 of some special machinery beyond the
 conscientious
 discharge of the ordinary duties of daily
 life. His
 demand for the abolition of the canon law
 was the
 natural corollary of his belief that the Bible
 was an all-
 sufficient guide to action. While not rejecting
 ecclesias-
 tical discipline altogether, he is impatient of
 it. The
 Christian, he argues, needs no elaborate
 mechanism to
 teach him his duty or to correct him if he
 neglects it.
 He has the Scriptures and his own
 conscience ; let him
 listen to *them*. " There can be no better
 instructions
 in ... all transactions in temporal goods than
 that every
 man who is to deal with his neighbour present
 to himself
 these commandments : ^f What ye would that
 others
 should do unto you, do ye also unto them/
 and Love
 thy neighbour as thyself.' If these were
 followed out,
 then everything would instruct and arrange
 itself ; then
 no law books nor courts nor judicial actions
 would be
 required ; all things would quietly and
 simply be set
 to rights, for every one's heart and
 conscience would
 guide him." ^{4*}
 " Everything would arrange itself." Few
 would deny
 it. But how if it does not ? Is emotion
 really an
 adequate substitute for reason, and
 rhetoric for law ?

Is it possible to solve the problem which
 social duties
 present to the individual by informing him
 that no
 problem exists ? If it is true that the inner
 life is the
 sphere of religion, does it necessarily follow
 that the
 external order is simply irrelevant to it?
 To wave
 aside the world of institutions and law as
 alien to that
 of the spirit—is not this to abandon, instead
 of facing,
 the task of making Christian morality prevail,
 for which
 mediaeval writers, with their conception of a
 hierarchy
 of values related to a common end, had
 attempted,
 however inadequately, to discover a
 formula? A
 Catholic rationalist had answered by
 anticipation